NIAGARA NEWS

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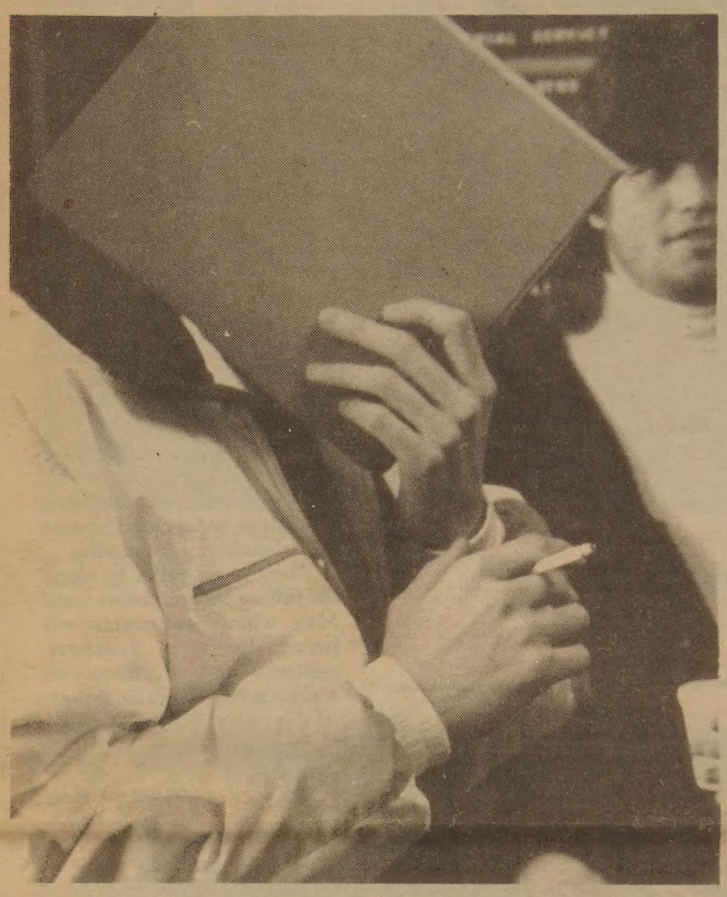
NIAGARA COLLEGE
of Applied Arts and Technology
WELLAND CAMPUS
LEARNING
RESOURCE CENTRE



Close, but no cigar. Niagara students are just falling short of making it outside to where they are supposed to smoke. The cold weather has attributed to the smokers' cubby hole at the entrances to the buildings. Here, a couple of students enjoy a cigarette as well as the warmth at the entrance to the Simcoe building.

Photo by Sheila McBrayne

College to settle deficit

By KGABO MODIEBEDI
Staff Writer

Niagara College has evolved a six-year financial plan to generate additional revenues and to reduce costs in an effort to settle its budget deficit, Hans van der Slagt, vice-president of administration, said Tuesday.

Under the plan, the college would pay its accumulated deficit over a period of six years rather than in one or two years.

"Normally, the ministry doesn't permit colleges to incur a deficit," Mr. van der Slagt said. "However, we've proposed to the ministry that rather than try to pay our deficit over one year we spread it over six years; that is a new concept."

The financial plan for the college recognizes that Niagara College will have a deficit of about $900,000 at the end of this fiscal year. "And we expect a further deficit next year because of the difference between our level of funding and the plan of increases we forsee happening next year."

In addition, the college plans to generate revenue from the development of the surplus Welland campus lands, he said.

A POSSIBILITY

"The city of Welland has expressed a tentative interest in the possibility of working with the college to develop a sports recreational complex in these lands," he said. "So, we're continuing our discussions with the city of Welland, and it would take another three months, or so, before we have a response from them."

The college is working with the budget advisory committee to work out the 1990-91 budget; it's the second year the college has been working out the budget with the advisory committee which is composed of representatives from staff and student bodies.

Niagara College's fiscal year is from April 1 to March 31. The budget deficit for this fiscal year is about $700,000.

Students should tell others to butt out

Students at Niagara College should be telling others to butt out, according to Hans van der Slagt, vice-president of administration.

The only way the smoking policy will work is "if everybody takes responsibilty," he said. "Everyone should feel it is their right to approach someone who is violating the policy. Students should be speaking to fellow students."

There have been complaints of some students smoking inside college buildings.

Some smokers at the college have chosen to ignore the smoking policy and are taking refuge from the cold weather by lighting up between the inner and outer doors of the school. "I have noticed it in the Simcoe building," Mr. van der Slagt said. "They should be outside."

Since the arrival of winter, smokers have sometimes blocked routes to various stairways and exits in the college.

TAKE STEPS

If a particular group who refused to conform to the policy were to be singled out, "we would take steps to encourage them to go along with it," Mr. van der Slagt said. "If someone were continually violating the policy, we would have to take some disciplinary action." No fines have yet been given out, he said. "So far it hasn't come to that."

He said he is opposed to hiring someone to monitor people who do not comply with the policy.

Niagara began to phase in the no-smoking policy by creating designated smoking areas in January 1989. In September 1989, despite petitions and protests from students and staff members, Niagara College became a smoke-free environment.

Apart from the few who refuse to conform, "the policy is generally being followed," Mr. van der Slagt said. "Many have come forward and said they are pleased with the policy — smokers included."

The current smoking policy will be reassessed in June.

Students get second chance

Niagara College students will get another chance to elect a student representative to the Board of Governors in February, Mary Hornak, the board's executive secretary, said.

"There will be a byelection for a student representative," Miss Hornak said. It is anticipated that this will take place in mid-to-late February.

The board's regular nomination process in December (for the 1990 term) produced no student candidates. Students have been represented on the Board of Governors for the past two years; prior to that, students fought for representation on the board for at least 10 years.

Miss Hornak said she is in the middle of planning the byelection, and the final details should be available shortly.

Council will review faculty evaluation

By LISA CHOMA
Staff Writer

Niagara's faculty evaluation procedure will be reviewed by a College Council subcommittee, it was decided Tuesday.

"I hate to see the good teachers who are doing their jobs tarred with the same brush as those who are not performing as well," Pat Delaney, business faculty member, told the council. "I try to dress it up by calling it indolence."

Teachers who aren't doing their job are not made accountable for their actions, he said.

Dr. Tony Knowles, vice-president, academics, agreed it was of utmost importance to address the issue, and supported the motion stting up a subcommittee.

"I can assure council that whatever it decides to do to review the situation, it will have the support of the academic administration of this college in terms of making it work."

LISTS PROBLEMS

Mr. Delaney listed some of the past college problems and discussed the question of how to evaluate a teacher quantitatively.

"It is difficult to do that for a teacher."

Inadequate performance includes such things as repeatedly missing class periods, non-quantitative student marking, use of old class tests, reading from texts, and not keeping abreast of the field, he said.

"Students deserve a first-rate education. It does have a lot to do with perception. Some people out there have the wrong impression of what we as teachers are trying to do."

Faculty member Willard Wright said an expert is needed, and there are few who have enough experience to evaluate teacher performance.

Niagara College policy required advance notice to teachers who are to be evaluated.

Ed Wilson, faculty, said instead of resisting, College Council should be looking seriously at the issue.

"There is a large body of understanding and knowledge here of teaching methods and methods of evaluation — I think this is very valid — teachers must be committed to excellence in teaching.

"Raises are a catalyst to drawing performance."

OTHER REWARDS

Business faculty member Wayne Ferry said teachers reach a point where rewards other than money are considered, and it is a matter of accountability.

Chairman Tom Fraser said the solution to awkward, since results of policies under the present set-up are purely punitive, there is no method of report or recognition.

"It mustn't be seen as a punishment tool, but as an improvement tool."

Mr. Fraser said there is no mechanism in place whereby anyone who has the ability to go in and correct the situation. "It simply doesn't happen."

"The real crux here is the teacher who doesn't give a shit about students, who doesn't do a good job in class whether they are here every day or not. We are all supposed to deliver to the students."

BEING ACCOUNTABLE

Tony Albano, faculty member, said middle managers must be held accountable for teachers' performance, and senior managers held accountable for middle managers.

"It's not just a simple faculty evaluation; we have to look at holding everyone accountable," he said.

Mr. Delaney said teachers are sometimes overburdened with other activities such as a second job, and it can interfere with teaching.

"Something like this is very insidious — it gradually creeps up on you."

College community urged to donate blood — gift of life

Eugene Maltais, president of the Welland branch of the Red Cross society, urges administration, faculty and students to turn out for the blood donor clinic Friday, Feb. 16, in the Mackenzie gymnasium "because blood is truly the gift of life."

The program year that donates the most blood on a percentage basis will have their names engraved on the Corpsuckle Cup, displayed in the college library, and will also receive an engraved plaque to hang in their hallway.

The clinic is sponsored by the Student Administrative Council, under the direction of David Mio, vice-president of external affairs. It had been scheduled for November of this year but was cancelled due to the faculty strike.

Students who plan to attend are reminded to eat a good breakfast that morning in order to maintain high levels of blood sugar. Refreshments will be provided afterwards.

The clinic, to be staffed by Red Cross and Pelham Ladies Auxiliary volunteers, will be open fron 10 a.m. to 3p.m.

Basket full

Continuing education Christmas food basket was appealing to students and staff for donations for the benefit of community resource centre. The project accepted non-perishable goods and nutritious food. Coloring books and knitted scarves were also collected for distribution by Christmas basket exchange.

Photo by Golekanye Molapisi

Stairway gets paint

The stairway at the west end of the Simcoe Building, between the second and third floors will be closed for painting until Monday.

Paint was peeling on the ceiling and upper sections of the walls because of water damage, Edward Thompson, head of maintenance, said.

"Before we repaired the roof in that section some water got in and caused the paint to peel," Mr. Thompson said.

The task will take until Monday because the walls are being scraped to the concrete and some minor repair may be required.

Weather fever

Falling temperatures and isolated shivers are predicted as a disturbance approaching from Hennepin Hall brings unsettled conditions during report card time.

Air pressure will fluctuate as marks relect the highs and lows of the day, and students will either be on cloud nine or experiencing rain-squalls.

There is no relief in sight for failing temperatures until May, when final exams will bring in new pressure systems and a chance of marks a few degrees higher.

Niagara Day delighted visiting students

Visiting secondary school students demonstrated a lot of interest in all college programs during the Explore Niagara day last month, Fred Habermehl, executive dean, said Tuesday.

"I met a group of students which sat in one of the technology classes," Mr. Habermehl said. "This gave them the opportunity to see what sorts of things were going on there."

Mr. Habermehl said there was a regular flow of students at the robotics lab in the Mackenzie Building.

"I'm pleased secondary school teachers spent their time going around visiting classrooms. This gave them an overview of the kinds of things offered in the college."

MATURE STUDENTS

Mature students from Adult Training Centre, came for the event. "But we directed our activity towards secondary school students," Mr. Habermehl said.

U2 cover band, Common Language, was of general interest to students, and it served to attract students to the Mackenzie building.

Mr. Habermehl said college students showed a lot of enthusiasm for their own programs by explaining the programs to visiting students.

"Especially the Human Relations students who in most cases watched for the buses as they arrived, got inside, welcomed students, and identified that anyone wearing a hat was a guide," Mr. Habermehl said. "And during the day they were visible everywhere so they could be asked for directions to various programs."

Other programs in other campuses such as hotel and tourism centre, horticulture, and health care were represented at the event that cost the college about $4,000.

Thirty buses carried about 1,000 secondary school students from the Niagara peninsula to the Explore Niagara day.

Mr. Habermehl said that the college would hold a public house April 1.

Clinic open for all

By JENNIFER HUGGINS
Staff Writer

The imagined horrors of a trip to the dentist have been made bearable by the dental clinic offered to staff, students and members of the community by Niagara College. One free check-up, can ease your pain.

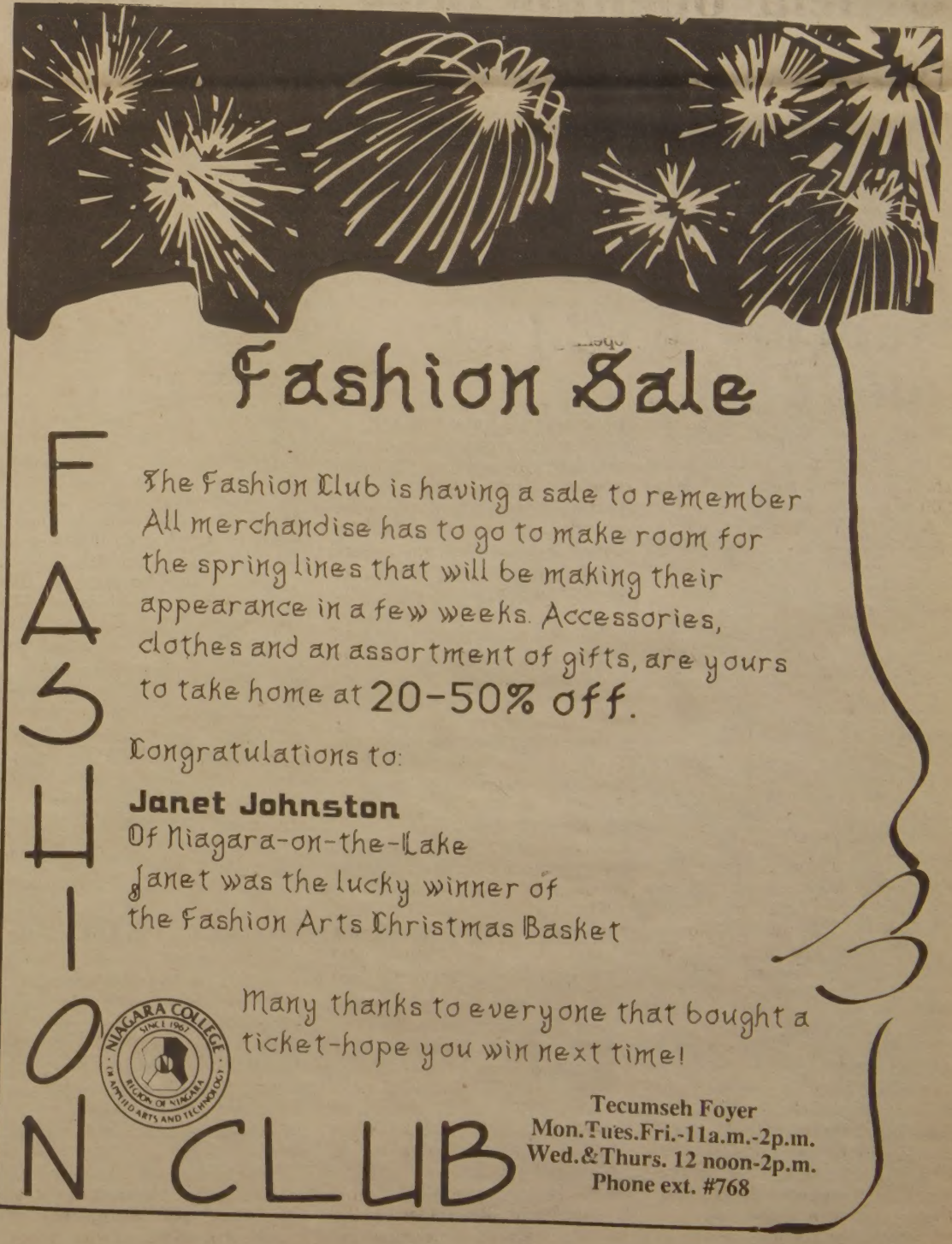
Jo Szabo of the dental assistant program doesn't think people have overcome their fear of going to the dentist, but said it makes it easier when patients find out the check up and X-rays are free.

The fees charged for fillings and extractions are to cover the cost of materials.

About 10 practising dentists are involved in the program and, the students, supervised by the staff, work as their assistants.

The clinic is offered to students, staff and members of the community outside the college.

Check up appointments can be made on Wednesdays or Thursdays before Jan. 31. The clinic will continue until March 31 with appointments for work done on Wednesdays and Fridays.


Fashion Sale
FASHION CLUB
The Fashion Club is having a sale to remember
All merchandise has to go to make room for
the spring lines that will be making their
appearance in a few weeks. Accessories,
clothes and an assortment of gifts, are yours
to take home at 20-50% off.
Congratulations to:
Janet Johnston
Of Niagara-on-the-Lake
Janet was the lucky winner of
the Fashion Arts Christmas Basket
Many thanks to everyone that bought a
ticket-hope you win next time!
Tecumseh Foyer
Mon.Tues.Fri.-11a.m.-2p.m.
Wed.&Thurs. 12 noon-2p.m.
Phone ext. #768

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The new Hospitality and Tourism Centre was opened on Friday Dec. 8. The traditional ribbon-cutting ceremony was done by, from left to right, Bill Heelis, Board of Governors' chairman, Vince Kerrio, Niagara Falls MPP, Mayor Bill Smeaton and college president Jacqueline Robarts.

Photo by Alison Olsen

Official opening does Niagara College proud

By ALISON OLSEN
Staff Writer

"We have a building now," said Niagara College president Jacqueline Robarts after receiving a gold key to the new campus in Niagara Falls. "We will become a centre for teaching excellence."

Niagara Falls MPP Vince Kerrio and Mayor Bill Smeaton were also on hand Friday Dec.8, to officially open the Niagara College Hospitality and Tourism Centre.

Fred Habermehl, executive dean, opened the ceremony with a short prayer of thanks. More than 200 people attended.

Miss Robarts credited Mr. Kerrio for getting the $6 million grant to build the new centre. "He made the difference between remodelling an old building and a brand new building," she said. The original plan was to remodel the old Pyramid place building.

"I feel good to have a hand in the future of our young people," Mr. Kerrio said.

Mr. Smeaton said tourism will grow because of the new building.

A FLAGSHIP

St. Catharines lawyer Bill Heelis, retiring chairman of the Board of Governors, termed the opening a "happy occasion." "Without the help of the city of Niagara Falls, this wouldn't be possible. The 90s will be for Niagara; the facility will be our flagship."

"The building will be second to non in the province of Ontario," Bill Ford, former president of the board, said.

A brass plaque was unveiled after Miss Robarts, Mr. Smeaton, Mr. Kerrio, and architect Richard Baker cut the ribbon officially opening the new building.

Mr. Baker, of Flemming-Baker Architects presented Miss Robarts with a gold key to the building.

The opening ceremony had been scheduled for October but was postponed by the teachers' strike.

Dr. Tony Knowles, vice-president of academics, said the building was "innovative and creative with new ways of meeting the demands of the industry in the 90s."

The $6.5 million facility at 5881 Dunn St., which opened in September, has 320 students but has a capactity of 500 full-time students. "We are looking forward to growth and expansion," Neil McGregor, program chairman, said.

Students take classes in tourism, culinary skills, and hotel and restaurant administration. Night school classes are to be available in the new year.

The new school offers a wines and mixology lab, a 100-seat theatre, baking, computer and food labs and nine specialized classrooms.

Talks to share space

Talks are continuing between Niagara College and Niagara County Community College to develop courses which will enable students to spend half of their course time at each college.

Each college has agreed to look into the possible legal and financial implications

Dr. Tony Knowles, vice-president of academic affairs, said with the free trade scenario, international trade and tourism/hospitality are seen as the two areas where some inital exploration might take place.

OSAP info arrives

OSAP strike assistance information finally arrived at the financial aid office Jan. 4, but the necessary "additional assistance forms" will not be ready for another two weeks.

It is the student's responsibility to request that this additional assistance form for the Ontario Student Assistance Program be completed and sent to the Ministry of Colleges and Universities on the student's behalf, Elaine Spark, financial aid officer, said.

"Students must initiate the process," Mrs. Spark said. "It would really be appreciated if students don't come in before Jan.24."

The deadline for applying for strike assistance funds is Feb. 16.

Students who apply will be assessed on their additional expenses in four categories: personal living, local transportation, child care, and return transportation. Students will be assessed only on the categories that apply to them.

Expenses in the first three categories are based on a two-week period, which is the total length of time the academic year has been extended, Mrs. Spark said

The fourth category — return transportation — only applies to "out of area" students who returned to their parents' homes during the strike and are classified as "dependants" (those who are assessed on parental income by OSAP). Because of the strike, OSAP will take that extra trip home into consideration for students in this category.

Those students who apply for the additional assistance and are eligible using these criteria will receive a grant cheque. Mrs. Spark said she has no way of knowing at this time when these cheques will be sent.

SAC gets approval to build Student Centre

The Board of Governors has given the Student Administrative Council (SAC) final approval to build a Student Centre, Jim Ascai, SAC president, said.

Final approval was given to the SAC members on Dec. 14.

The centre to be built in two phases betwen the Simcoe and the Black Walnut buildings, is expected to be functioning by January 1991.

The first phase will consist of SAC offices, a lounge, a games area, a serving area for food, a bank instant teller machine, a stage for a band, washrooms, and storage space.

The second phase will consist of a student store, an expanded dance floor and an expanded studying lounge. Jim will be meeting with the architects, Flemming-Baker, next week to try to find out if a properly ventilated room for smokers can be included.

It is envisaged that if the college were to have a residence on campus, a retail outlet could generate a considerable amount of profit.

All costs for the building will be borne by student funds. Money now in the SAC trust fund will be used for a down payment with the balance to be paid by a special student levy of $25 which is already in place, plus an additional committment from the regular SAC operating budget.

"I am excited about the building, but worried about a smoking area," Jim said. "If there's no smoking area, we will lose tons of money."

He expects the first phase to be started "by April" and to be "completed around Jan. 1991."

Comments on future president

A Toronto firm hired as the consultant to find the next college president has invited comment on the type of president Niagara needs in the 1990s.

Representatives of George Enns Partners Inc. will be in the Tecumseh Lounge on Friday, Jan. 19. They invited anyone interested to meet them there.

Specific time periods during that day have been allocated for different groups.

8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. — directors

9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. - other administration

10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. — Students

12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. — faculty

2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. — Support Staff

The presidential search committee has hired the consultant to conduct a country-wide search for suitable candidates. The committee will interview the candidates and recommend the best ones to the Board of Governors, which will make the final choice.

OTHERS TOO

Comments are also being requested from advisory committees, Boards of Education, municipalities and many others, Foster Zanutto, a presidential search committee representative, said.

The committee has already given the executive search committee any written comments they have received.

The consultants assigned specifically to Niagara are Janet Wright and Jim Lundy. Anyone may communicate with them directly. Mr. Zanutto said.They can be reached at 70 University Ave., Suite 410, Toronto. The phone number is 598-0012, and the Fax number is 598-4328.

Ten executive search firms submitted proposals for the presidential search program. Of these 10, three were chosen to make presentations in person, and George Enns Partners Inc. was selected by the committee.

The committee has had five meetings since September, Mr. Zanutto said. It has set up a schedule which leads to the appointment of the new president Sept. 1, 1990.

Jacqueline Robarts, the current president, notified the board that she would not be seeking another term when her contract expires Aug. 31, 1990.

Mountains of snow fill handicapped zones

Handicapped students looking for parking spaces before the holidays were left out in the cold as piles of plowed snow filled the only two handicapped zones in Parking Lot E.

The two spaces in the lot, behind the Simcoe Building, were plowed in with snow in the last remaining days before the Christmas holidays. Two-metre high piles of snow made parking impossible.

Jack Spittle, director of property and plant services, said the plowing is taken care of by a private contractor. "We have had no problems with the contractor up to now," he said.

"The contractor, L & S Roofing, does all the plowing at the Welland campus," Mr. Spittle said. "The snow was removed on all the lots prior to the students' return on Jan. 2 from their Christmas break."

Mr. Spittle said he had not heard of any other problems concerning handicapped spaces at any of the campus parking lots. Nor had he received any complaints from faculty or students.

"There is plenty of space available for students to park due to the fact that there are fewer students at the campus at that time of the year," Mr. Spittle noted.

Hunt on for queen

A rose is a rose is a rose. Welland's Rose Festival has begun its annual search for the Rose Queen.

Applications are being taken for next summer's Rose Queen competition. Contestants must be between the ages of 18 and 22 years as of June 8, 1990. Other restrictions require the applicants be single and residents of Welland.

Editorials

The 80s are over

We've learned a lot

Happy New Year; 1990 is here, not only a new year, but also a new decade.

It's two weeks into the new year now and most of us have failed to keep our New Year's resolutions — some have forgotten what they were.

There are various resolutions made; quit smoking, quit swearing, lose weight and after New Year's Eve a lot of people vow never to drink again. Whatever the goal is for 1990, a new year will introduce troubles and triumphs that no one could have wished for or warned against.

In 1990 we saw several Communist countries overthrown by their people. We witnessed the tearing down of the Berlin Wall which opened the border between East and West Germany. History was made in 1989 and, with hope and faith, the new decade could open up the former Communist bloc of Europe to the rest of the free world.

The 80s woke up the world to the realization that if the world continues to ignore its environmental problems there may not be much of an earth left by the 21st century. Pollution control, operation Greenpeace, Friends of the Earth and the fight against aerosols that are eating the ozone layer are examples of trying to reverse the destruction we've caused.

The 90s should continue and extend the preservation of the natural environment while progressing in an industrially-oriented society. The 90s will put an end to covering up our problems like a cat in the sandbox and will find workable alternatives or solutions.

We all live and learn. From the 80s we learned the value of environment, the liberty of freedom, the friendship between countries and the ability to disarm. We've learned a lot.

Sheila McBrayne

A decade begins

Time to forge ahead

The passing of the 80s marks another decade in mankind's meaningful passage through history. Or as perhaps some viewed it — the slippage from chaos to catastrophe.

With the changing of the guard, its hopes and anguish, its conquests and inspiration, we are pierced by wisdom to intelligently assess it, and move on.

1990. It has a good sound to it. Enough of looking back and plotting our strategic maze through life. Let us all forge ahead with fervor, confidence, and the perseverance to realize our dreams.

This year, as predictions govern, is going to be a dandy.

Lisa Choma

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The Niagara News is a practical lab for the Journalism-Print program, covering the college community and other areas of interest. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the management of the Niagara News or the administration of Niagara College.

Letters to the editor

Habermehl thanks everyone for successful Open House

Dear Editor,

By way of the Niagara News, I would like to express to everyone my appreciation of the way they co-operated during our **Explore Niagara** in December. Over 1000 secondary school students visited the campus on that day. Students from the Human Relations program, who were easily identified by their distinctive hats, greeted the visiting students and acted as guides. The visitors were made to feel welcome in the various class and lab areas through the efforts of the Student Administrative Council and of all our students and staff.

Thanks to the co-operation of everyone, Niagara College received many favorable comments about the day and the assistance it provided to these students in selecting their career path.

Fred Habermehl
Executive Dean

Nicholas praises Petruzella

The Editor
An open letter to Mary Petruzella

Ms. Mary Petruzella
Admissions Officer
Niagara College

Dear Mary

Please permit me to belatedly offer you my Season's Greetings publicly. I do so because you are a special type of person in the eyes of several generations of students. You possess a unique personality. You love to help others and it is amazing how you patiently address the concerns of students and faculty. Your dedication to your work is legendary. How cheerfully you have performed important tasks outside your regular hours without any compensation! The Niagara College community owes to you, Mary, a debt of gratitude.

I hope you had a joyous Christmas with your lovely family, and may at least half of your dreams come true in the New Year.

James Nicholas
Instructor
Social Sciences

Why the 'X' ?

'Xmas' inappropriate

'Christmas' means more

Dear Editor

BELATED CHRISTMAS THOUGHTS

I would like to share with my fellow Niagarans some thoughts I have had over the past several months.

It all began a few months ago, but really hit home to me a few days ago. I was passing one of the many signs, which we now so readily accept, wishing me a "Merry Xmas". Have you ever noticed how so easily and painlessly His name is removed? What did "X" ever do for you? When you an I pause at Christmas to remember the holy child born into humble circumstances, is it "baby X" we contemplate?

I said earlier that it all began a few months ago. The number of times I would hear "My God" or "Jesus Christ" roll so carelessly or lightly off the tongue in conversation seemed to be increasing. Then I saw the Merry Xmas sign and the strange contradiction struck home with force.

Though willing without much thought to use the name of Christ in any context which comes to mind, we are not willing to use His name in the very context which would seem to be the most appropriate, the day on which we remember His birth.

Over this time, I was often reminded of one of Christ's disciples who, when faced with the powerful truth of our Lord's resurrection, cried out in adoration and reverential awe, "My Lord and My God." Surely the one who showed God's love by coming into the world, giving of himself so selflessly in life, and dying for our sins is worthy of our adoration, praise, and committment. Oh come, let us adore, Him, Christ the Lord, not just at Christmas, but all year through.

Bob Baddeley, Chairman
Community Services Division

Bullpit

Killing animals for fur 'cruel' practice

By ELIZABETH YATES
Staff Writer

In Canada, up to 15 million animals are killed each year for their fur. The barbarities perpetrated by the fur industry can no longer be tolerated by thoughtful, compassionate individuals. Fur is a sadist, not a status, symbol, and those who sell, buy and wear it must be viewed accordingly.

The argument that trapping is necessary, because it provides the sole source of income for many natives, is refuted by statistics: for 80 to 90 per cent of trappers, trapping is merely an income supplement, and the average income of a Canadian trapper is only $700 a year.

Fur trappers use incredibly inhumane, primitive and savage methods to "harvest their crops": leghold traps, which clamp down on the limb of an imprisoned animal with force equivalent to a car door slamming on a child's hand and crushing it; the Conibear, a whole-body trap which, if it catches an animal of inappropriate size (this occurs about 40 per cent of the time), does not kill quickly as intended but draws death out over an excrutiatingly long period; and wire snares, which slowly strangle their victims for hours, or days.

These trapped animals are sentient mammals, with highly evolved central nervous systems, who suffer and feel pain as we do.

An estimated five million "trash" animals — unwanted wild or domestic animals — are victims of this brutal trade each year. Often these discarded animals are beloved family pets.

The argument for trapping as a method of disease and population control is also refuted by the facts: trapping removes fur-bearers (which are often predators) from ecosystems and upsets natural processes — thereby creating the problem of population control that it is supposed to solve.

Farmed furs are treated no more humanely. Confinement of these still-wild animals stifles their vital instincts and results in unnatural, psychotic behavior such as cannibalism and self-mutilation. Profit is the sole motive of fur farmers; accordingly, fur husbandry is accompanied by genetic defects, and inexpensive, inhumane methods of killing are used. Ranched animals are gassed, electrocuted, or have their necks wrung. When gas is used, the difficulty in monitoring doses sometimes results in animals being skinned alive.

The public must be educated about how fur is produced. Ignorance and greed have allowed the fur industry to flourish for so long in Canada: now it is time to follow the lead of European countries such as England, the Netherlands, Sweden and Austria, which have banned leghold traps and drastically reduced fur consumption. We must make a commitment to free ourselves from the slavery of cruelty towards those sharing the earth with us.

To someone who touts the glamor, luxury and beauty of a fur garment, I respond, "How can a coat made of animals who suffered and died be beautiful?"

Focus

Niagara grad thwarts racist rally

By JOHN BLACKWELL
Staff Writer

The town of Minden is used to commotion on holiday weekends. Located in the heart of cottage country in the Haliburton Highlands, the community is regularly innundated by hordes of cottagers from the south looking to get away from it all.

But nothing in its past could have prepared the sleepy town of 2,000 for the uproar last Canada Day weekend, and Niagara College grad Russ Duhaime played a major role in defusing a powder keg which developed in the summer playground.

The uproar erupted when it became known that a local resident was planning a white supremacist rally at his home on the long weekend. A leaflet addressed to "white kinsmen and skinheads" had been circulated to publicize the event. Interested parties were instructed to write a Minden post office box to register for the Save our Canada Day Festival.

Warning

Mr. Duhaime, editor of The Minden Times, warned in a June 19 editorial that, "in less than two weeks the eyes of the country will be focused on Minden as dozens, perhaps hundreds, of skinheads and Nazis converge on town."

The paper and the community rose to the occasion and Mr. Duhaime received international recognition for the role he played.

The town had been seized with frustration at its inability to prevent the rally. The police, politicians and the people were all hamstrung when it came to trying to prevent the "festival" since it was to be held on private property

Local residents were described as "scrambling...to come up with a suitable course of action to respond to the offensive gathering."

"In response to our feeling of frustration and seeming helplessness, we have created a way the community as a whole can express its support for the positive beliefs which the vast majority of Canadians hold," Mr. Duhaime wrote in his June 26 editorial.

The Times printed a full page poster with the word 'YES' in red capitals. The townsfolk were urged to, "Post it in a window of your home, car, place of work or any public place." In small print under the simple message, the page read, "As a citizen of Canada and a member of this community, I believe in the equality of all individuals regardless of race, color, creed, religion or ethnic origin."

Avoiding confrontation yet still voicing unqualified disapproval for the gathering, the people were able to show to the national media and to themselves that they wished to be distanced from the event.

The results were glorious. On July 3, The Times was able to report that, "the presence of the hundred young skinheads on the weekend was almost invisible."

Mr. Duhaime summed up the affair in his editorial that day. "From the outset, many were saying that the white supremacist rally is really just a 'media event'. To a degree this is true. But what is also true that Minden's image to the outside world was at stake. If the community opted to sit back and allow (the rally organizer) to accept all the media attention, the town could easily have been perceived as a breeding ground for such racist views.

"Instead, this community chose to make a statement to the contrary. The news media could not help but take note of Minden's resistance to the rally. By midweek reports were focusing more on Minden's positive stance than on (the) unpopular rally."

Battle

Minden had gone to battle against the racists and against the segments of the media that insist on publicizing the extreme (no matter how distasteful or isolated) and won convincingly.

For his role in the drama Niagara alumnus Russ Duhaime received international recognition. The journalism grad and Rev. Edward Moll of the Minden United Church were hailed by the international president of the B'nai Brith, Seymour Reich, as "champions of freedom." Mr. Moll orgranized a town-wide protest against racism from his pulpit.

Russ Duhaime (right) pictured here with Rev. Ed Moll and Gerry Rose, chairman of the League for Human Rights' Central Cabinet. Mr. Duhaime and Rev. Moll were honored at a special breakfast in Toronto for speaking out against a racist rally in Minden.

Photo by the Minden Times

"If only there had been such good people in the 1930s, our people would never have been decimated (in the Holocaust)," Mr. Reich added.

They both received a Friends of the League for Human Rights award from the co-chairman of the League's Central Cabinet.

Chairman Gerry Rose said The Times "gave new meaning to freedom of the press by showing how newspapers can press for freedom."

Mr. Duhaime accepted his award on behalf of the people of Minden. "If not for the people of Minden, I wouldn't be getting this award."

Local boy makes good

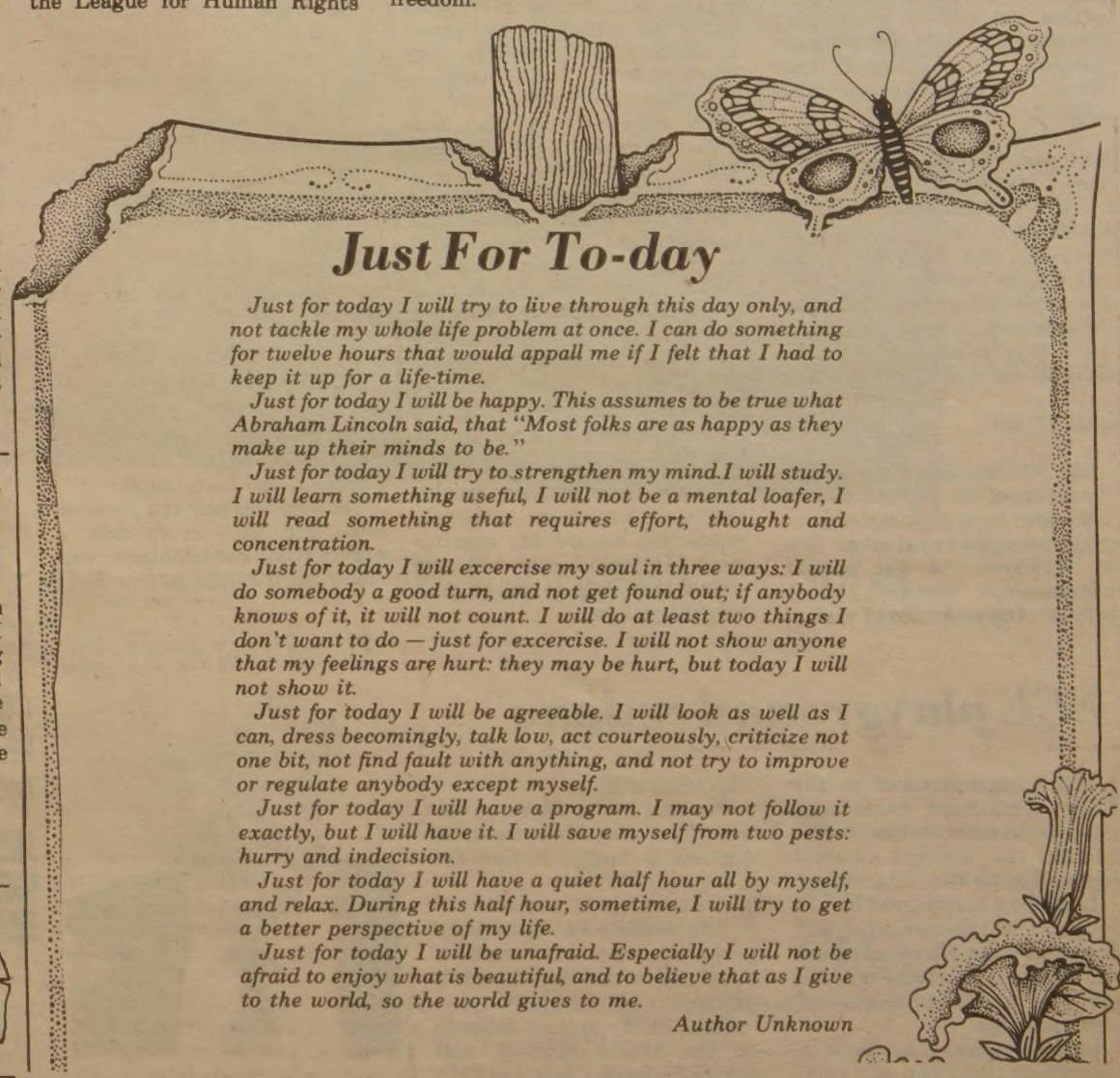
Dear Editor,

I have lived in Welland now since 1971, although I was born and raised in Simcoe. Tanguay Place is a pleasant place to live and offers handicapped people an independent lifestyle. For the past year I have been attending Niagara College in Welland, doing upgrading in math and English. I am considering further education in the field of journalism. I have also been busy as a fund-raiser, organizing 3,000 raffle tickets for a Christmas Draw, to raise money for a handi-van for Tanguay Place. I want to wish all my friends and family in Simcoe a very happy Christmas. I would love to hear from you.

I am sending a copy of a poem entitled (Just for To-Day) that I like very much, I am also sending an article from our local newspaper The Evening Tribune in Welland. Maybe you would like to put this in your paper to let the people of Simcoe know.

Sincerely,
Leon Lowry

PITCH IN



Just For To-day

Just for today I will try to live through this day only, and not tackle my whole life problem at once. I can do something for twelve hours that would appall me if I felt that I had to keep it up for a life-time.

Just for today I will be happy. This assumes to be true what Abraham Lincoln said, that "Most folks are as happy as they make up their minds to be."

Just for today I will try to strengthen my mind.I will study. I will learn something useful, I will not be a mental loafer, I will read something that requires effort, thought and concentration.

Just for today I will excercise my soul in three ways: I will do somebody a good turn, and not get found out; if anybody knows of it, it will not count. I will do at least two things I don't want to do — just for excercise. I will not show anyone that my feelings are hurt: they may be hurt, but today I will not show it.

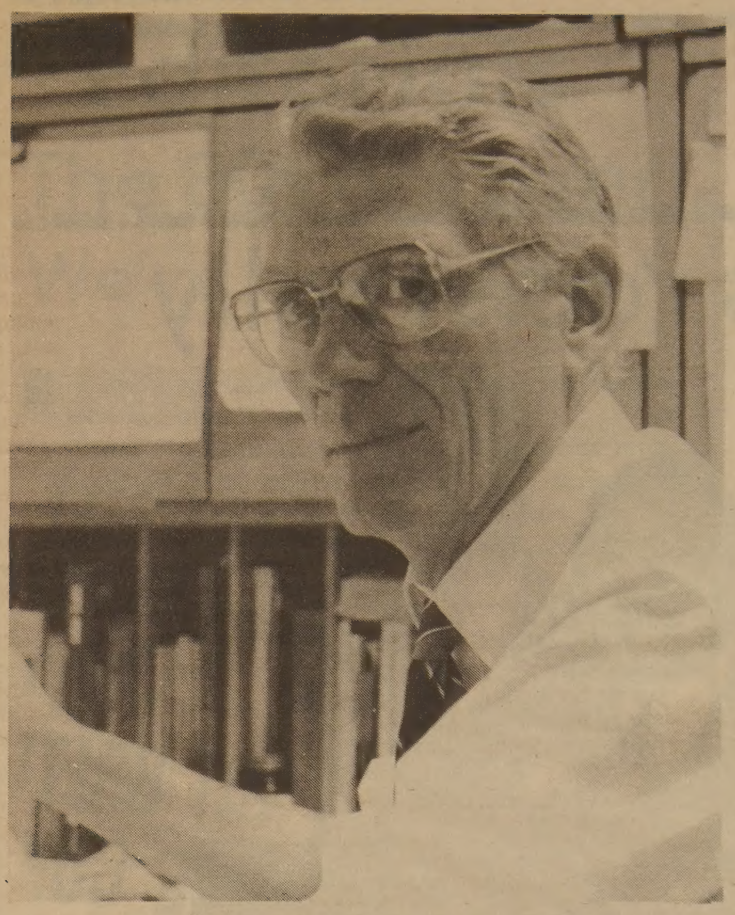
Just for today I will be agreeable. I will look as well as I can, dress becomingly, talk low, act courteously, criticize not one bit, not find fault with anything, and not try to improve or regulate anybody except myself.

Just for today I will have a program. I may not follow it exactly, but I will have it. I will save myself from two pests: hurry and indecision.

Just for today I will have a quiet half hour all by myself, and relax. During this half hour, sometime, I will try to get a better perspective of my life.

Just for today I will be unafraid. Especially I will not be afraid to enjoy what is beautiful, and to believe that as I give to the world, so the world gives to me.

Author Unknown



EUGENE MALTAIS

Maltais new president of Welland Red Cross

By ELIZABETH YATES
Staff Writer

Eugene Maltais, a Niagara College political science instructor, who was elected president of the Welland branch of the Red Cross society Dec.11, "will be heading an organization with a paid staff and a volunteer roster numbering in the hundreds."

Mr. Maltais initially viewed the presidency with trepidation, "because I knew of the formidable task ahead." He accepted the position to foster continuity within the society, whose past presidents have included former Niagara College president Tony Manera and director of continuing education Gail Hilyer.

"I'm part of a long tradition here and I'm very conscious of that," Mr. Maltais said.

Mr. Maltais, who was vice-president of the organization for five years, said, "Previously, I had one narrow focus — now I have the whole thing to worry about." As president, he must learn the international principals and objectives of the Red Cross.

BIG PLANS

Mr. Maltais has big plans for he future of the society: to set up a broader base of volunteers, incorporating the broad ethnic base of Welland;, to get church memberships involved; to coordinate the activities of various Red Cross branches in the peninsula; to re-assess current problems in light of needing changes; and to capitalize on the goodwill of the people of Welland and Pelham in time of international emergencies such as the San Francisco earthquake.

"A lot of people here want to help but don't quite know how," he said, adding that the first emergency service units on the disaster scene were from the Red Cross

He also plans a major reorganization of the Red Cross committee structure, and wants to educate the community more about what the Red Cross is doing. "Everyone knows about the blood donor service, but who knows about all these other programs we have?" he said.

Mr. Maltais, who has been involved with the Red Cross for 12 years through blood donor clinics, is willing to give his time and energy because he feels it is a truly Christian and comprehensive organization. Involvement in the Red Cross is "a way of helping fellow human beings, whether they are in your own communtiy or in Armenia or Romania or San Francisco."

College administrators, faculty and staff have been extremely supportive toward his appointment, Mr. Maltais said, and have offered their help as well as their congratulations.

Niagara journalism grad takes flight in new career

By SCOTT TRACEY
Staff writer

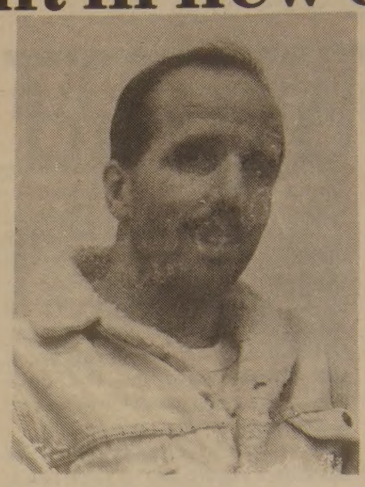
When he entered Niagara College, Keith Fox felt that journalism was the career for him. But his true ambition lay ahead, and he would have to keep his feet on the ground and his head in the clouds before he would realize what it was.

A graduate of Niagara's journalism-print program, Mr. Fox realized his life-long ambition to fly. Excelling in his field, he went on to become a commercial airline pilot for Air Ontario.

"I had always wanted to fly since I was five or six years old," Mr. Fox said in an interview on a return visit to the college. He has no regrets about studying journalism though. He was able to do things he otherwise could not have, such as meeting Joe Clark, now external affairs minister, and attending press conferences with former Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau.

Licence

Mr. Fox earned his private pilot licence in 1975 after being involved with journalism for two years.



KEITH FOX

Upon graduation, Mr. Fox worked for the Timmins Daily Press for a year before being transferred to Woodstock. He then wrote news for radio station CJRN in his home town of Niagara Falls.

While working at CJRN, Mr.Fox began taking flying lessons on his time off. Once when he was asked to work on a day off, he explained he couldn't work because he had a flying lesson. Told to make a choice between his job and flying, he chose flying.

Mr. Fox began working at the flying club while taking lessons and eventually got hired by Air Ontario after earning his private licence. Today Mr. Fox is the captain of a de Havilland dash eight passenger airliner. A special endorsement on his licence enables him to fly an airplane this large and carry passengers. He had to attend two weeks of ground school before flying this plane.

Mr. Fox admits that it is difficult to spend time with his wife, Joanne, and his 13-month-old son, Christopher, because of the number of overnight stops he has to make but he feels this is part of his job.

Medical

Mr. Fox has to keep himself in shape and keep up to date on changes in his equipment. Doing a medical and attending ground school every year help him to do this.

"I've always been interested in something different," Mr. Fox said in summing up his career choice. And the question of danger brings a slight smile to his face. " The most dangerous part of my job is driving to Toronto."

Complin returns to college, sells wine for fundraising

Charles Complin,retired chairman of the Niagara College Foundation,was at Niagara for one day last month to distribute the remaining stock of wine for the college's fundraising body.

Mr.Complin,in his middle 70s had been in industry from 1951 until he retired in 1981. He said the foundation was looking for someone to "get it off the ground," the function money being to raise money for the college.

The first campaign goal was to raise $200,000 for the new Hospitality and Tourism Centre in Niagara Falls. By December, the campaign was essentially over.

HAPPY EXPERIENCE

Mr.Complin said he enjoyed his association with the people at the college. "It has been a happy experience for me."

In praise of the Seafood Extravaganza,one of the events in the campaign, Mr.Complin said it was most successful, a marvellous time.

For Dec.15 only, Mr.Complin was in his old office calling people to tell them that an extra stock of the college wine, Chateau des Charmes, had been found.

The wine was sold at a premium price and with every sale, a substantial contribution was made to the foundation. Each buyer was issued a tax receipt.

Mr.Complin said he had been a reporter in St.Catharines for five years and became a radio broadcaster for CKTV, St. Catharines. *It was at that time that Eaton,* Yates and Town, of Port Weller, approached him to take a job in industrial relations and advertising.

BUILDING HOBBY

Doll-house building occupied some of his leisure time. He built a doll house for his 10-year-old granddaughter and enjoyed it so much he built another for his own daughter. This second house was fancier. It had electric lights and *elaborate furniture.*

He has traced his family history and has documented and published a book about his ancestors as far back as 1390.

Mr. Complin retired at the end of October and said he intends to enjoy his days.

ECE playground redone

Major improvements to the Early Childhood Education playground are scheduled for the spring, the College Council reported at its Dec. 12 meeting.

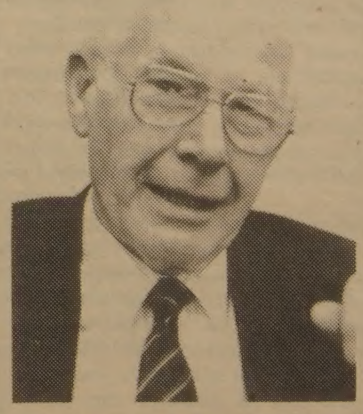
If funding is approved by the Ministry of Community and Social Services, Niagara College will have to contribute only 20 per cent of the total cost of improvements.

Limited capital is available in the college allotment, and from fundraising money by early childhood staff.

Funding by the ministry for some labor may also be available, but will be limited in time and nature.

Cost estimates have been prepared, and the work is scheduled to be done in three phases.

Much of the project depends on the MCSS funding, and grants for labor, Chairman Tom Fraser said.



CHARLES COMPLIN

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Canada

Five exchange students tell their experiences

By BAAITSE MOLAPO
Staff Writer

As an elementary school student, Regelio Villareal, 17, always liked geography and to learn about other countries, and he collected stamps as his hobby. He was fascinated by Canada, and when a scholarship came to study abroad for one academic year he chose Canada among other countries as his first choice.

Now a high school student in Lakeport Secondary School in St. Catharines, he does not find a lot of cultural, economic and educational differences between Mexico and Canada.

"We use the same types of cars and eat in the same restaurants like McDonald's and Kentucky."

Regelio was one of four students sponsored by the Educational Foundation for Foreign Study taking part in a recent interview.

The non-profit organization seeks to further international understanding through language, education, and cultural exchange, Valerie Grabove, Niagara College teacher and the foundation's Niagara region co-ordinator, said. More than 20,000 students around the globe have participated in the program, which has offices in five continents.

Mexico City with a population of 18 million people is "the biggest city in the world," according to Veronica Zetina, 17, a resident of the city. However, it has "very serious air, water and noise pollution" and people sometimes die because of the pollution problems.

Marc Fleury, 18, of Welland, was one of those lucky students who was Canada's "young ambassador" to West Germany. He liked it very much and "wouldn't mind going again." He learned to speak German, and one of the benefits of living in West Germany was that he became a talkative person.

"My friends and colleagues are surprised that I am very talkative," he said. He was surprised to see that the cultural difference between Europe and North America is really big. "I experienced some cultural shock, but I overcame it."

However, he was not able to visit East Germany at that time although he wanted to se what happens beyond the wall.

Different

"Asian countries and Western countries are very different and everything is different for me," Koichi Masumoto, 18, of Japan, said.

In Japan he spoke little English but the emphasis is on written English. However, he says he does not have any academic problems because of the language barrier, as he has improved a lot and he finds "Canadians take education lightly."

Although he experienced some cultural shock when he arrived, he was not really paranoid as there are many Japanese in Canada, and he was happy to note that many Japanese companies are operating in Canada. Canadian education is liberal and school hours are fewer than in Japan, he said.

Although the five students are from different countries, the Niagara Region group is very friendly to each other as they passed jokes about each other during their dinner at a Niagara-on-the-Lake restaurant. Those from South America, Regelio and Veronica, were busy speaking Spanish which they say is easier than English.

Mrs. Grabove said most students are able to adapt to different cultures although some have failed and had to be sent back. However, that is not common. She had an exchange student living with her and they continue to write to each other. During the summer holidays Ms. Grabove and her husband Brian Green are planning to visit their "daughter" in France.

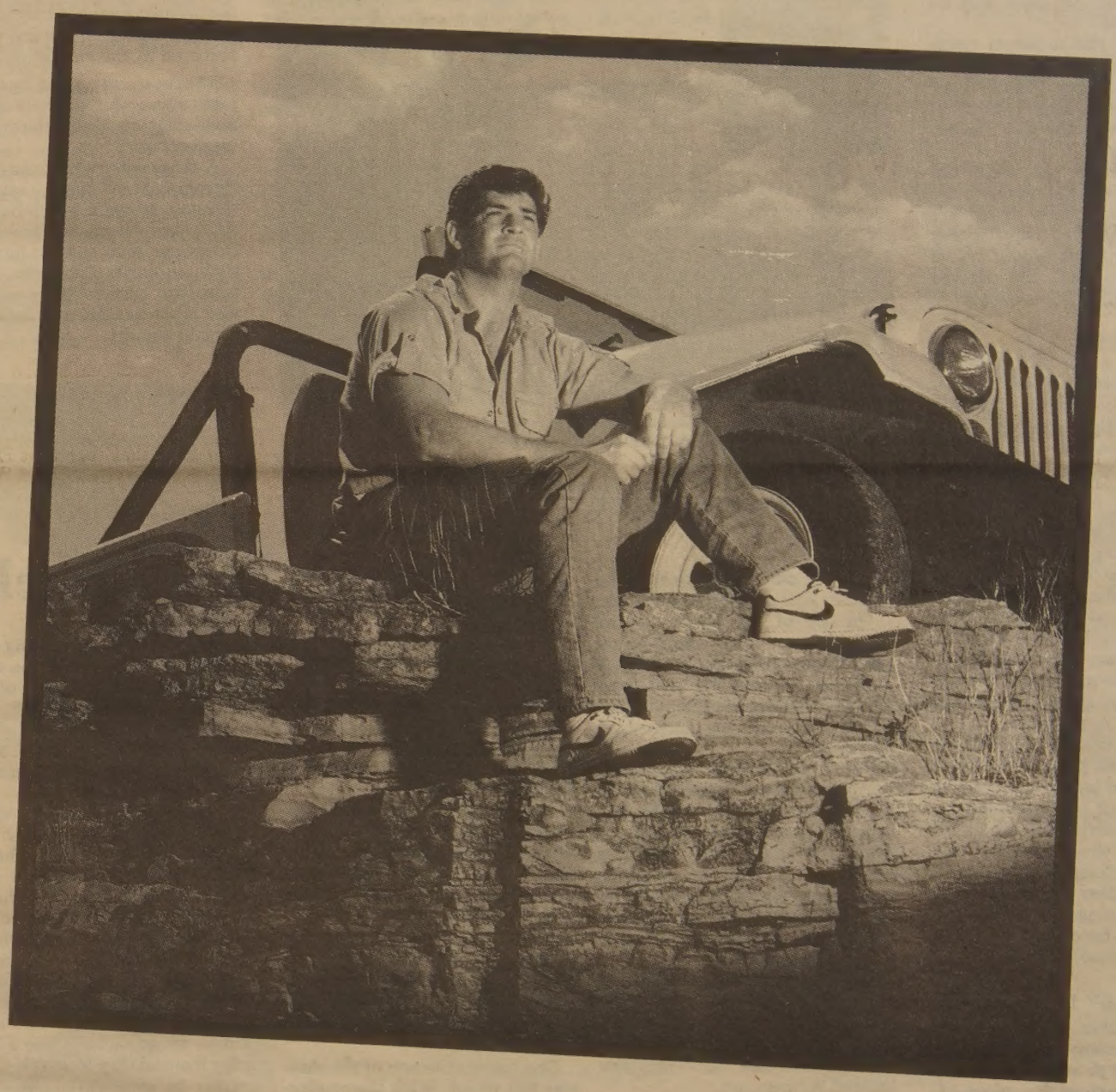
Eligibility

To be eligible, students should be betwen 15 and 18. A 70 per cent grade point average is required for full-year programs. Students must be interviewed to determine if they will adapt in the country of their choice. Selection is based on maturity, adaptability, and academic motivation.

The foundation needs volunteer families who can provide meals, a bed, and perhaps, most importantly, love and guidance to a teenager from another land. The host family and the student will learn about each other's culture first hand, as well as developing friendships that will last a lifetime.

In a broader way, they will be promoting international understanding, and may help in East-West understanding as some teenagers are from the Soviet Union. Some of the countries that students can choose to study in are Australia, England, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Scotland, Sweden and others.

Although he no longer collects stamps, Regelio said he still likes to learn about other countries, and hopes to visit Canada and European, Asian and African countries after completing his studies.



Attack on fee

Jacqueline Robarts, Niagara College president, has joined college presidents across Canada in a write-in campaign protesting the proposed three per cent "administrative fee" on all student loans.

Miss Robarts said she has written to the President of the Treasury Board, Robert de Cotret, expressing her disapproval of the proposed fee.

The three per cent fee is one of the measures suggested by the President of the Treasury Board to reduce the costs of defaults on student loans, and it is to apply to all student loans granted after Aug. 1, 1990.

College presidents across Canada had been asked to participate in a write-in campaign against the fee by Tom Norton, executive director of the Association of Canadian Community Colleges (ACCC).

The ACCC believes this fee would "be a disincentive to many to continue in school and will penalize the least financially advantaged of our students." While admitting that the repayment of student loans is a problem, the ACCC is asking the government to find other methods of improving the present system.

"By spreading the cost of bad loans to all student borrowers, the government appears to accept and condone the non-repayment of student loans while in no way creating an incentive for their repayment," Mr. Norton said.

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SETTING THE STANDARD

Entertainment

Primitive African, Canadian art reflects beliefs

By PAULA RITZ
Staff Writer

It was a visit to another time and another continent at Rodman Hall in St. Catharines last month.

The advantage of being a reporter is that one learns something new every day, and journalism students who visited the gallery learned the intent behind each artifact made by Canadian natives and African artists.

Thousands of years ago Canadian natives from the west moulded ethnological masks and costumes, but they did not serve as decorations for each had its own meaning.

Exploring the museum takes you to another domain — as your eyes become your ears, your curiosity gets the better of you:"What exactly was the artist's intention?"

Suspended on the wall, the mysterious raven stares into the distance. Its beady eyes are discomforting, yet captivating. Because the raven would travel from land to sky, the natives believed it to be a messenger.

HEAVY MASK

However, when the raven is opened up during rituals, it is a total transformation. The art piece is no longer a raven; it is a ceremonial head pieve. To wear it became a physical feat for the young men who had to balance and work the strings simultaneously.

The building was alluring in itself. It was built in 1853 by Thomas Rodman Merritt, the prime mover in the construction of the original Welland Canal in 1829. The house was owned by the Merritt family until 1959, when it was bought by the St. Catharines and District Arts Council

The next artifact was a costume crocheted from palm trees which sits inside and icy cage. Extensive detail calls out to the onlookers, and it is acknowledged. Men were sewn into these outfits for theatrical performances such as a healing process or a harvest ceremony. Being fitted into the costume and becoming the spirit was the purpose.

DESIGNED BY LUBA

Inside another glass box the staff, or as many know it, the baton, stands at attention for all to see. The expressive piece of work was designed by the Luba tribe in Zaire, in Central Africa.

On top of the baton sits an African man with short squat legs; they symbolize strength and stability. Around the man there are four triangular-shaped legs which represent the horn of an antelope.

There are several ceremonial purposes for the baton. Used by the king or the royal women as a symbol of power and authority, it brings to mind the Bishop's crosier — a sign of religious leadership. The staff is also used by the king for sending messages through a messenger. It was taken along as proof.

This was a combined exhibition at the St. Catharines gallery. The Northwest, A Collector's Vision displayed Canadian native art, while Witnesses to Tradition showed African art.

Lisa Choma and Richmond Mahehe, Niagara College journalism students, take a closer look at the Hornbill, an African artifact displayed at Rodman Hall in St. Catharines during their class visit in December. The African and Canadian art exhibition marked the 30th anniversary for the centre.

Photo by Virgil Klassen

By MARIA PULE
Staff Writer

I have never been able to appreciate art, especially sculpture, because it had no significance to me until lately when I got a chance to witness the traditional art of African people and Canadian natives.

The exhibition marking the 30th anniversary of the Rodman Hall Arts Centre in St. Catharines through Dec. 1 to 30 was quite impressive and fascinating. You get to learn about something that you were not expecting: the aesthetic norms and the art of mythological beginnings conveyed by objects such as masks, figures and vessels featured in the exhibition.

The meaning carried by the objects successfully serves its purpose and thus makes the art more interesting.

A guide volunteer at the centre, Barbara MacDonald, said one thing in common which both the African and native art has is that it was made for specific purposes tied to spiritual beliefs. Apart from the artistic level point of view, that was the very important part of the art.

MODERN PIECES

The African art consisted of more than 20 pieces made primarily of wood. Mrs. MacDonald said it is modern and dates from the 18th century, whereas the native art, which was made of cedar and decorated with natural dyes made from berries and plants, goes back to the 15th century.

The African art featured objects from central and west African peoples.

IDEA OF BEAUTY

A high flat head with slim neck represented by one figure was the idea of beauty at the time. A prominent abdomen was a sign of good health, short legs represented strength and stability, she said.

A heavy mask from the Ivory Coast which was grasped in the teeth was worn to celebrate coming of age, and an elaborately carved baton would have been carried before a ruler as a symbol of authority and power.

The native art consisted mainly of colorful masks. The most fascinating object, however, was the hornbill, a bird. It was supposed to be the first animal that people killed when they appeared on earth. Sexual reproduction is also attached to it.

Mrs. MacDonald said the culture of both African and native people has been killed by foreign interference such as Islam and Christianity, and so the culture and religion that went with the art were lost. The native people, for instance, now use a modern paint instead of natural dyes for decorating their masks.

Lee Aaron 'Body rocks' the Duck

By RENO FRADO
Staff Writer

Canada's premiere female vocalist, Lee Aaron rocked the Aqua Duck when her Bodyrock tour rolled through Welland last month.

Riding high on the sales of her latest album, Bodyrock, Lee was in good spirits the night of the show. The album "just went platinum in Canada," she told the crowd of more than 270 people.

Metal Queen was the show's opener, but the main focus of the performance was directed towards the new album. "I feel Bodyrock is definitely my best album so far," she said.

One major criticism of the show was the sound. With the production on her new album being of the high quality that it is, one would expect that an artist of Lee Aaron's stature would have sounded good live. This simply was not the case. Some of the material from the new album just didn't come across.

The crowd, however, didn't seem to mind (or maybe they didn't notice) as they shouted their approval after each song. Bodyrock's first single, Whatcha do to my Body, was greeted with a particularly enthusiastic response.

One impressive element of the show was that Lee really seemed to enjoy being there. Too many times we go out and see a band play live and they look as if they'd rather be somewhere else. Even though it wasn't one of her best shows, there didn't seem to be anything fake or pretentious about her performance.

Also worthy of praise was her guitarist and song writing partner, John Albani. John is one of the best and most under-rated guitar players in the country. His hand in bringing Lee Aaron to her present standing in the Canadian music industry is undeniable.

Lee, whose videos for Whatcha do to my Body and Hands On are enjoying heavy rotation on MuchMusic, has been on tour since August of last year and is getting set for a tour through Europe.

Overall it was a good rock'n'roll show at the Aqua Duck, and judging by the crowd's response, very few left disappointed.

New improved Universal Juveniles return

By ALLAN BENNER
Staff Writer

After a year of being out of the public eye, the Universal Juveniles, a Welland-based rock band are back better than ever.

Mike Wilson, 30, lead vocalist and lead guitar player, reorganized his group and brought it back Dec.1. Since a successful debut at Operators, a nightclub in Pickering, it has been playing at Toronto bars, such as The Gas Works. The jobs are a result of a contract the band has negotiated with the Entertainment Centre, a booking agent.

Mr. Wilson said the "catastrophic break-up a year ago" resulted because "I was really stressed out. When you tour for five straight years you feel kind of like mashed potatoes."

Mike's odd sense of humor, which prompts quotes such as, "sleazy and easy to please people that roam the world, looking for watermelons to sell to their neighbor", helps him stay sane in a "business as hard as that of a professional musician".

The Universal Juveniles is a clone band of Kim Mitchell, a Canadian rock star. Mr. Wilson bears a striking resemblance to Mr. Mitchell. "There's something about the lyrics of Max Webster (Kim Mitchell's former band) that doesn't deal with how you should be, they deal with sitting on a chaise lounge by your back pool, wondering if you're ever gonna go on vacation."

The other members of the Universal Juveniles are Dale Carley Kiltz, 24, the drummer; Scott Smed Semley, 24, the keyboard player' Billy Martin, 24, bass guitar, and Troll, 24, rhythm guitar.

Mr. Wilson spent two years at Niagara College in the Social Service Program in 1977 and in 1978 and last year, after the breakup of Universal Juveniles, he studied psychology at Brock University. "We love students because they deserve to party; they gotta listen to their professors going blab, blab, blab."

Mr. Wilson, also an artist, has done many pen and ink sketches, some of which he sold for up to $1,000. "Yes, I've achieved that level of success."

"To be a musician is a great thing to do, to be a full-time artist is a great thing to do, and now I've learned how to bring them both together. I'm getting ready for a big debut showing of my art."

Looking ahead, Mr. Wilson said he hopes to achieve high status in music. "The more Kim has fun out there the more I can keep him as my mentor, to, hopefully, in all his respects, exceed farther than him." He intends to continue playing "as long as everybody (in the Universal Juveniles) realizes that being young is cool and music keeps you going."

"I learn my Human Relations through playing," Mr. Wilson said. With a completely new show, which Mr. Wilson said is "better than ever", the Universal Juveniles will be doing some "human relating" soon.

Student injured, trip still magical

By LISA CHOMA
Staff Writer

Susan Rodgers "caught the excitement" of ancient Mayan history, but refused to let four cracked ribs and a punctured lung ruin her holiday. Prompted by Eugene Maltais' elective, she set sail on a cruise ship Dec. 23 to learn more of ancient Mayan culture.

"Aside from this," she said, pointing to her ribs, "it was magical."

You could smell smells, hear sounds, see natives, and scan it all before it became weathered by time."

Mexico

Ms. Rodgers' first reaction to the Yucatan Peninsula in Mexico, and more specifically the Island of Cozumel, was mixed. It took 1½ hours on a Mexican bus, driving on "rickety" roads too narrow for cars to pass.

We came to a marketplace, and the Mayan guide led us through a tunnel. All the time I was thinking, 'Is this it?' until I got to the end. It was fascinating."

The ruins were barricaded with poles to prevent tourists from passing through, and they were not allowed to use flashes because the light deteriorates the paint on the hieroglyphics.

The main step leading to the Castle of Tuluum is called Ziggaret. Other ruins are temples of "ascending" and " descending" gods. There is only one caricature carving left in stone which is thousands of years old. Tuluum was occupied by rebelling Mayans in 1871.

The view from the ruins overlooks the Caribbean sea — and the beach where Christopher Columbus came ashore.

The Spaniards thought the Mayans were "savage" and "pagan" for holding the rite of human sacrifice and so to honor God, they murdered every Mayan and burned their possessions and books.

Calendar

The Mayan calendar is said to be more accurate than ours today. They were the first culture to invent the decimal system, expressing their numbers by dots and bars. The dot represents one unit, the bar represents five units, and the stylized shell represented the 0.

Mayan Literature was called the "Codices."

Following a storm out of Miami to the Cayman Islands, Ms. Rodgers marvelled at the golden Mexican sunsets. The Cayman Islands, noted for being the major breeding ground for sea turtles, was so cold on Christmas Eve that 10,000 turtles left the farm and headed for the sea, she said.

Her avid curiosity about cruise ships prompted her to climb the conning tower. Without warning, the radar began to pivot, hitting her in the back and knocking her onto one of the ship's lower columns.

"There was no warning, and the radar was not turning when I climbed up the ladder. It was an accident — just as much their fault as mine, I guess."

In spite of her injury, she still enjoyed the masquerade party on the boat on the way home, dressing as a bubblegum machine.

"I am a very strong-willed girl, with a high tolerance to pain. I didn't want anyone to know what had happened," she said.

Susan is a mature student enrolled in the General College program at Niagara. A member of the Niagara Falls Camera Club, she has won two gold ribbons and one silver in a 1989 photo competition. She plans to attend the Brooks Institute of Photography in Santa Barbara, Calif., after finishing college.

"Mexico is a great place, somewhere I would go again, hands down. I plan to go back so I can visit a lot of the places I missed — you can't do that on a cruise — and get some great photographs," she said.

Tourists in Mexico are viewing the ancient ruins of the Mayan people. The main step — called the Ziggaret — is shown leading up toward the Castle of Tuluum. The Castle overlooks the Caribbean sea.

Photo by Susan Rodgers

SUSAN RODGERS

Chairmen change names

Niagara's heads of departments have been given the new title of director instead of chairman beginning this month.

Dr. Tony Knowles, vice-president of academic affairs, said the change was done to achieve a college-wide consistency in the management structure. He said instead of being chairmen, all people reporting to the vice-president and sitting in the administration and academic committees will be directors.

Memo

TO: ALL STAFF

FROM: Foster Zanutto

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH UPDATE

The Executive Search Consultants who have been hired by the College would like your direct input on the type of President Niagara requires to lead us through the 1990's. The Presidential Search Committee has already collected your written comments and has passed these on to the consultants. The consultants would now like anyone interested in providing verbal comment directly to the consultants to come to the Tecumseh Lounge at the time allocated for your group.

Friday, January 19, 1990
Tecumseh Lounge

8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.	**Directors**
9:30 a.m.- 10 30 a.m.	**Other Administration**
10:30 a.m.- 12:30 p.m.	**Students**
12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	**Faculty**
2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	**Support Staff**

The Presidential Search Committee will provide regular updates to the college community via the Niagara News on February 1, March 1, April 5 and May 3. The Committee welcomes your comments and opinions.

Presidential Search Committee

David Bessey, Chairman	(Board Member)
Mary Anne Seppala	(Board Member)
Otto Urbanovics	(Board Member)
Charles Sands	(Board Member)
Bernard Baril	(Board Member)
Ron Ireland	(Student Representative)
Meg Rose	(OPSEU 243)
Joan Hastings	(OPSEU 242)
Foster Zanutto	(NASA)

Foster J. Zanutto, Director
MARKETING AND INFORMATION SERVICES

Teresa Creamer and Pete Stec are just two of the representatives at NSA, a water filter distribution company. The lucrative idea is grabbing attention at Niagara.

Photo by Jennifer Huggins

Labor market faces problem

By MAHUBE MPUGWA
Staff Writer

The labor market in Niagara Region is faced with a problem of people applying for jobs who do not possess the necessary skills, Jacqueline Robarts, Niagara College president, told a press conference last week.

There is often a "mismatch," she said. An applicant may have qualifications, but not those needed for the job.

Miss Robarts told the conference at Hennepin Hall last Thursday that the college and Niagara Industrial Training Corportation, NITAC, conducted a survey, which identified training needs in the fields of hospitality and tourism, industrial trades and automobile service. The survey contacted 660 employers in the region.

The reports reaffirmed the college's decision to develop the field of hospitality and tourism as a training focal point, by building a new centre in Niagara Falls. "The strong demand for people to work and to be upgraded in this rapidly expanding economic sector will be met by a series of new and revitalized programs," she said.

The college will provide a continuum for students in the area of skilled trades, to study through apprenticeship training after entering the workforce

Oscar Zanatta, president of NITAC, said the reports were not a reflection of the quality of education at Niagara College. "What you have to understand is that the way in which technology is moving, the student who graduates no longer has the privilege of saying 'I've made it.' There's a continual upgrading that goes on."

Jon Ogryzlo, college manager for planning research and development, said employers who responded to the survey cited recruitment difficulties because of skills mismatch due to rapid technological development.

In hospitality and tourism, 56 per cent of 85 companies surveyed had a short supply of cooks. In industrial trades, 41 per cent of the companies contacted had difficulty in hiring general mechanics. Seventy-five per cent of the 95 firms in automotive service had a problem hiring mechanics.

Miss Robarts said the college and NITAC surveys provide reliable data on the human resources needs of employers.

The surveys have been carried out every two years in the past decade, and completed in partnership with Canada Employment and Immigration Commission and Ontario Ministry of Skills Development.

"We believe valid current labor market situation with employers is critical to the planning and programs offered by the college," George Repar, college director for planning, research and development, said.

He said NITAC, through provincial funding, purchased eight program from Niagara to upgrade skills for full-time and part-time workers. NITAC has been involved in assisting the formation of Ontario's public policy of manpower training and human resources development.

NITAC is spending $ 1.5 million of its '90-91 budget to upgrade worker's skills in the region. Ann Dixion, NITAC executive manager, said 400 workers annually benefited from the training package.

College officials said they were planning to play a leading role in worker retraining despite difficulty getting provincial funding for new equipment. Miss Robarts said $500,000 would be needed for equipment to upgrade the radio television program.

Easy work, easy money

By JENNIFER HUGGINS
Staff Writer

Unbelievable! The idea of earning $1,000 a month legally is turning a few heads at Niagara College.

As the condition of drinking water deteriorates, the need for purification is growing more and more. National Safety Associates is a booming company looking for representatives to distribute their product. NSA makes water filtration units that are convenient and revolutionary. At less than two cents per litre, these units are a Do-it-yourself bottled water kit.

Terry Booth, a sales co-ordinator with NSA for 20 years, said at a St. Catharines meeting last month that the company has doubled its wholesale business 1400 per cent from 1984 when they made $5 million, bringing last year's total to $300 million.

Lucrative

The posters in the halls say to call Pete. Pete Stec, broadcasting student at Niagara College, is a representative of NSA and said that people call him because they find the idea "lucrative".

Pete said the work isn't hard because of the sales approach. NSA uses the "puppy dog" system. The potential customer is allowed to preview the unit for a week and by the end of the week, there is usually a sale. Compare this to giving a little girl a puppy for a week: by the end of the week, she will try to find a way to keep the dog.

When a curious person calls Pete, he will refer him to Teresa Creamer, a sales co-ordinator based in St. Catharines. Every Tuesday, NSA holds no-obligation meetings to acquaint people with the company and the product. Pete said a lot of people are interested in the idea and seeing what it involves.

Jody Martin, who recently moved to Welland, said it sounded good and decided to try a meeting because "personally, I just needed the money."

Another man who tried the unit in his home at Pete's request said, "I could tell the difference;" he came to the company because he wanted a sideline to his other work.

People with a phobia against door-to-door sales have nothing to worry about because NSA doesn't sell that way. The idea is to make a list of people who you think would buy a unit and start with the people who you know would buy one just because they love you. Through word of mouth and friends, there is no need to knock on unfamiliar doors.

If you were to make only one sale a week, you could make $300 a month and just think of the prospects if you were to sell three units a week.

This unit is a water filter. The most popular model is the countertop 50C. The model is an easy sell, practically selling itself. There are other models ranging from a portable unit to one that will filter all the water in a house and one that does hot and cold water.

The 50C unit retails for $239 and a sales representative buys it for $180 wholesale, that is an automatic profit of $59. The small application fee of $20 and $20 for the recommended start-up kit is made back in the first sale.

Benefits

NSA offers incentive benefits such as giving each customer a chance to win a trip to the West Indies and the dealer sales representative whose customer wins gets a trip. Once a salesperson starts up the sales ladder, there are additional benefits such as a car allowance.

People are calling NSA water filtration units the oil industry of the '90s.

"As far as I'm concerned, NSA is a blank cheque...you fill it in," Ms. Creamer said.

Meetings are held at 335 Welland Ave., St. Catharines, on Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m.

Students still to sign up for trip

No students had signed up by mid-week for the Quebec winter carnival, but they are expected to as the trip is popular each year. It has sold out for the last five years, Donna Flutur, Student Administrative Council office manager, said.

It is a three-day trip leaving early Feb. 2 and returning late Feb. 4. The price of $175 includes bus fare and hotel. A $50 deposit will hold a seat.

The "Petit Hotel" that students will be staying in is within walking distance of the Old Walls of Quebec City. There will also be a tour escort and a walking tour through Old Quebec City.

Students from all over the country attend this winter carnival, Donna said. The trip is "fun, exciting and a cheap weekend."

There are many places of interest to visit, such as the Wolfe and Montcalm Monument, the Kent House, the Cardinal Taschereau Monument, the Notre Dame de Quebec Basilica and the Maison Louis Jolliet.

There will be the official opening ceremony, and the selection and coronation of the 36th Quebec Carnival queen.

The deadline for signing up is Jan. 12.

For more information and for arrangements, students can visit the SAC office and ask for Donna, or call 735-2311.

Speaker series at college

Welland's Chamber of Commerce is geared to begin its first speaker series at the college over the next term. The theme: Meeting the challenges of the 90s.

Larry W. Smith, an economist specializing in entrepreneurship and ecnomic forcasting, will deliver the first lecture on The Canadian Economy — How we stack up. Mr. Smith is the chief executive of a venture capital firm and has published a wealth of material in business circles. He will appear in the Hamilton Room on Thursday, January 18, at 7 p.m.

"He will forcast what the 1990s should mean economically," Chamber of Commerce director Renato Romanin, said.

The lecture will cover the role of Canadian business in the North American and the world marketplace. "Whether you are a homemaker, a businessman, or a person on the shop floor, everyone has something to learn from the speaker," Mr. Romanin said. He said the economist's opinions on inflation, GNP, and free trade into the next century should prove informative.

The lecture is co-sponsored by the Welland Chamber of Commerce, the Welland Development Commission, and a local businessman, Brian O'Brine. "Basically, the Chamber of Commerce wants to deliver a variety of services to the community," Mr. Romanin said. He believes this is a step in the right direction.

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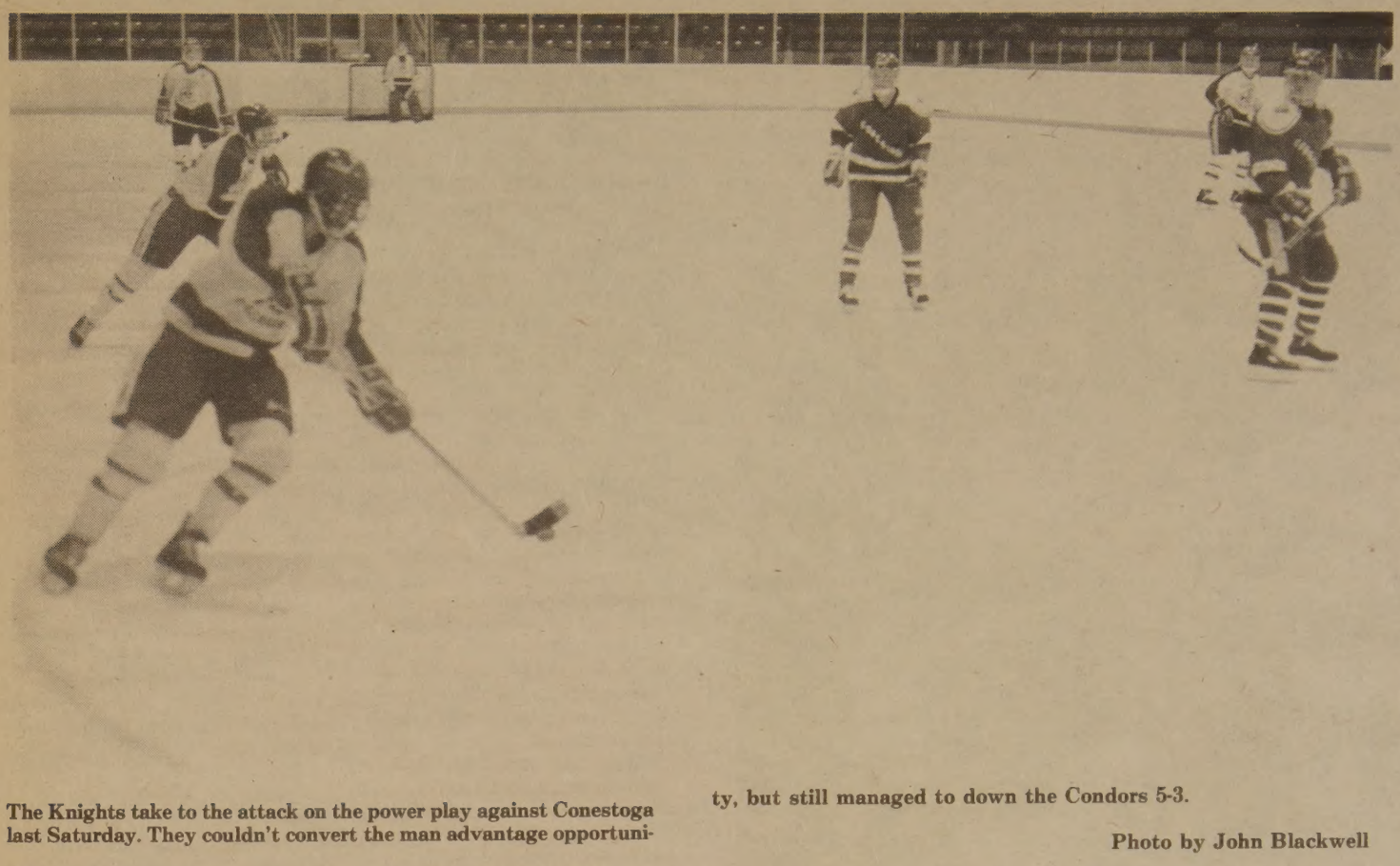

The Knights take to the attack on the power play against Conestoga last Saturday. They couldn't convert the man advantage opportunity, but still managed to down the Condors 5-3.

Photo by John Blackwell

Niagara's hockey team continues steady climb up ICHL standings

By JOHN BLACKWELL
Staff Writer

After a lacklustre 1-2 start to the season, the Niagara Knights hockey squad reeled off its fifth straight win of the season on home ice at the Welland arena against the then-first-place Erie Community College before the Christmas break. The game was a start of a skid for Erie,who lost three of their next four games and now sit fourth in the Inter-Collegiate Hockey League.

Niagara is now in a second-place tie with Conestoga College,one point behind the Penn State Nittany Lions. The Knights have a game in hand over the Condors.

Kent Loach led Niagara scorers with a goal and two assists. Jim Denardi added three assists, while Lance Parcher netted two goals for the winners. Todd Gaguardi netted a hat-trick in a losing cause for Erie.

The visitors started quickly, jumping out to a 1-0 lead with only a minute gone in the game.

When Niagara finally got down to business,they struck for three straight goals to take the two-goal advantage into the first intermission.

EVEN TERMS

Erie dominated the second period, potting the two goals necessary to put the teams back on even terms before the deciding frame.

When Erie opened the third with Gaguardi's third at the 1:40 mark,it looked as if the Knights might have let the game get away. But it took only 57 seconds for the home team to climb back to even terms when Parcher scored his second of the game from Denardi and Loach.

The entertaining,fast-paced,evenly-matched hockey continued through the third period until Dave Mooridian broke the deadlock once and for all with just over nine minutes left in the game. The Knights kept the attack,pressing with abandon to the point that only some fine saves by Jim Darling in the last few minutes kept the victory intact for the Knights.

"That was an important win for us," coach Fred Bassi observed afterwards. "The team showed a lot of character to come back like that and get the win. That's an important game."

From that important game,the Knights shifted to an exhibition match last Saturday against Conestoga to fill a month-long gap in their ICHL schedule.

LAST WEEKEND

The Epiphany contest was a scrappy affair with Niagara ending up on the better end of a 5-3 decision.

The home squad jumped out to a 2-0 lead on goals to make the score 3-1 at the first intermission.

The second period saw Darling replace starting goalie Tim Berezowski who played well between the pipes for the Knights in the opening period. Darling gave up the first goal of the frame to the Condors on the power play. The Knights responded with goals by Jeff Mazi and James Ward to make the score 5-2.

Conestoga scored the only goal of the third period to make the final score 5-3.

The Knights resume action Saturday at the Welland arena when they face off once again against Erie Community College. The Knights then have two games next week,Friday at home against Penn State in a battle for the top spot in the ICHL and again the next night in an exhibition match against a team of Welland High School All-Stars. All games have an eight o'clock start.

V-ball squad short

Niagara College men's volleyball team, The Knights, are suffering dismal defeats every tournament it enters because of a shortage of players.

Last weekend the Knights lost three matches straight to Windsor University, Sheridan College and Mohawk College in an exhibition tournament played in Hamilton. They lost all the three matches 2-0.

Ray Sarkis, Knights' coach, said the team is weak because the players do not practise regularly as a team.

The team has lost six players because of the October/November strike, two others who are still in college are not willing to play for a weak team. With them the Knights can do well in tournaments, Mr. Sarkis said.

The Knights are looking for experienced players who can play for the team. Anybody with high school volleyball experience will be accepted or anyone who is athletic.

"We are looking for players who can play for us till the end of the year," Mr. Sarkis said. The team is left with three tournaments to play.

Anyone interested in joining the team should contact the athletic department, or should come to practices at the Welland campus gym on Mondays or Thursdays.

ICHL STANDINGS

	W	L	T	Pts
Penn St..	6	1	1	13
Niagara	**6**	**2**	**0**	**12**
Conestoga	6	3	0	12
Erie C.C.	6	4	0	12
Buff St.	3	6	1	7
U. of B.	2	7	0	4
U. Roch.	1	8	0	2

Women's volleyball Knights regroup, avoid suspension

By SHEILA MCBRAYNE
Staff Writer

Niagara's women's volleyball team evaded a $500 fine and two-year suspension by regrouping the team.

With only a 10-player team, coach Judy Halaiko was really stuck when two of her players quit after their first tournament at George Brown College. The absence of these two good players forced the team to make the decision — play or quit.

Each player received a letter from Peter Rylander, co-ordinator of athletics, asking them to make the commitment to the team. Judy also sent letters to each player explaining her position and the team's position as a whole.

Because the women Knights had already played one tournament, if they had quit then, the athletics department would have been faced with a $500 fine and the women's athletic program would have been suspended for two years. "We've never had this problem before," Judy said.

SOUGHT MORE

Immediately before the Christmas break, Judy and team captain Leah Kulas circulated posters in the quest for more players. Their efforts were rewarded with new players showing up for practice.

"We're trying to keep the team together for those who have been here since the beginning," Judy said. With returning second-year players Lyn Brochu and Tami James along with Leah, the team has a stronger experienced base around which to build a team.

The team roster includes Leah, Lyn, Tami, Tobi, Sue Cowan, Karri Goering, Linda Grondin, Paula Delano. Sheila McBrayne, Cheryl McVicar, Tammy Heafey and Cindy Carruthers (injured).

"I think it's going to come together," Judy said. "The first-year players will have room to build a team for next year. I hope that they will return to avoid the same situation next year."

The team has an exhibition tournament this Saturday, Jan. 13, at Redeemer College in Hamilton. The next league tournament is Feb. 2,3, at Kingston. The women's season runs until Feb. 16, 17, with the championships on March 2,3.

PITCH-IN

Do you wanna dance? A couple of players square off during Saturday's exhibition game between Niagara and Conestoga. The two teams meet next in league play on Valentine's Day. Could it be Al Capone all over again?

Photo by John Blackwell

What's missing from this picture? The crowd. The Niagara Hockey Knights are hoping to break the bleachers next Friday when the team battles the roaring Penn State Nittany Lions. All proceeds will go to Women's Place. The Knights hope the support will prove contagious throughout the year.

Photo by John Blackwell

New pub, new spirit?

By GOLEKANYE MOLAPISI
Staff Writer

Building a Student Centre, promoting unity among the Student Administrative Council members and encouraging student participation are some of the main priorities for Jim Acsai, SAC president.

Jim said this year he wants to see the completion of the Student Centre. "It will be a big boost financially for the college,"he said.

The Student Centre would enable SAC to make money through pubs. Jim said SAC is not making money because most pubs are held off campus which makes it difficult for people to attend. He said the pubs are held at one bar which is not everyone's favorite. "When pubs are held in the Student Centre many students will be able to attend."

SAC does not have its own facilities which make it difficult to make money. "The administration gives us a hard time. We do not have total control of the faciliies," Donna Flutur, SAC office manager, said. Permission to hold pubs is sometimes denied.

Jim said he will talk to architects about proper ventalation in the proposed centre to allow smoking. If there is no smoking,"we might as well throw the whole thing away."

Student apathy has been rife at the college for the past few years. Jim said he will try to get SAC members working together to increase student participation. "People do not stick around for activities," Donna said.

A student residence might be able to increase more student participation and reduce the apathy. "A lot of people are from out of town. People from St. Catharines and Niagara Falls cannot drive to the pubs in Welland because there is a lot of alcohol involved," Jim said.

Jim said so far SAC has tried a lot of things to get students involved in school activities. He said SAC will bring in different bands to satisfy a variety of students. Cass Howorth, SAC vice president for social affairs, has been trying to do that since last year.

A non-alcoholic pub is planned for under age students. "If it is succesful, we will have a few of them," Jim said. A non-alcoholic pub will enable under-aged students to take part in college activities.

In the coming SAC elections, anybody running for a council position should be truly interested. "The person should be dedicated without letting their school year pass," Donna said. She said it is better to have a vacant position, instead of having someone who is not dedicated.

"Maybe this year because of the Student Centre, students will want to ensure that people on the council will work hard for their fellow students," she said.

The proposed Student Centre is to be built between the Black Walnut and the Simcoe Buildings.

Knights play for a cause

When the Niagara Knights hockey team meets Penn State in a battle for first place next Friday, they're hoping the stands will be packed. And it's not just home ice advantage they are looking for. The proceeds from the game will go to support a local women's shelter.

The Knights are selling tickets for their Penn State game and their exhibition match the next night against a Welland High School All-Star team with the proceeds going to Women's Place, the Welland shelter for abused women.

The Knights are one point behind the Nittany Lions in the Inter-Collegiate Hockey League.

Ticket price is $2.

Tickets are available from Fred Bassi in the MacKenzie building, member of the hockey team or the SAC office. They will be on sale at the door each night - Jan.19 and 20. Game time for both is 8 p.m.

$50 fine

Parking clampdown

Parking in a handicapped area without a handicapped sticker, or in fire lanes will soon cost a $50 fine.

This may help eliminate consistent illegal parking in these areas.

Sue Den Besten, municipal law enforcement officer, said Wednesday, "I gave out 54 tickets this morning in the two Merritt building parking lots."

Four months after Niagara College's paid parking policy was introduced, there has been no decrease in the number of cars parked illegally. In fact, the opposite is true.

"There has been a definite increase in the number of cars parking illegally," Mrs. Den Besten said.

When psycnology teacher Terry Mason suggested in September that the college needed a better-organized system of checking passes, as well as a full-time parking attendant, he was told the college could not afford to improve the system because it had used up all the money from sold passes.

"If they're not going to enforce this, then they are violating the contract and why should we continue to pay?" Mr. Mason said.

An informal count, taken Monday at noon, showed 28 of 366 cars in parking lots B and D to be parked illegally. Of the 28, 25 were parked without passes, one car with a pass was parked on a snowbank, and two cars with passes were parked on the grass medians in the lots, in blatant violation of the college's parking policy.

"I find it especially bad on Monday and Tuesday," Mrs. Den Besten said. "I think people take the passes out of their cars on the weekend and forget to put them back. And they don't put them back in until I catch them."

She has noticed a marked increase in the number of cars parked in handicapped parking. "Parking in handicapped areas is especially bad in the bad weather."

Increased fines for parking in handicapped areas were supposed to go into effect Jan.1, but Mrs. Den Besten said she is still waiting for confirmation from Welland City Hall.

Despite the continuing problems, parking in the paid daily parking lot it much better than it was at the beginning of the year.

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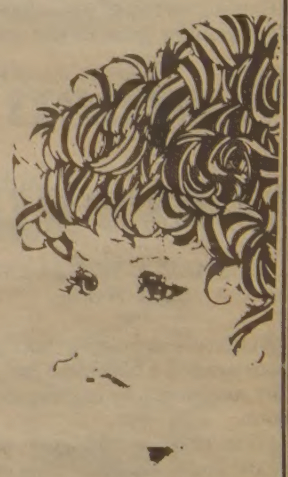

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